

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## Salute to Small Business Week

WHEREAS, successful Rhode Island businesses often start as ideas realized by entrepreneurs who dream of a better world and work until they see it through, from family businesses that anchor Main Street to the high-tech startups that keep America on the cutting edge; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the cornerstones of Rhode Island's promise; and

WHEREAS, throughout each economic recovery, persevering small businesses have helped put our country back on track, as numerous new and saved jobs have come from our state's small businesses; and

WHEREAS, government must continue to provide new opportunities for small business owners and the next generation of entrepreneurs, to win the future; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurship is essential to the strength and resilience of Rhode Island's economy, and we must support the small businesses that provide work for more than half of Rhode Island workers, and create two out of every three new private sector jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Salute to Small Business celebration is a time to discuss the challenges and celebrate the achievements of small business owners, entrepreneurs and employees; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee,** Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May 30 – June 3, 2011 as Salute to Small Business Week and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this <u>27</u><sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011

A. Ralph Mollis Secretary of State Lincoln D. Chafee Governor